# **The Silvia's Home Sweet Home**

By Cathy Rose

turkey was prepared and the tree trimmed in Jason and Kathy Silvia's new home this holiday season. They and their 4 children are all settled into their new home at 138 Grove Street, Kingston. It's a LEED Certified, energy efficient, affordable home they helped to build with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plymouth in the affiliate's first Women Build.

There's a lot that takes place before move-in day – and it starts years before.

Rewind to June 1, 2004 when HfHGP received the parcel of land by a vote of the Kingston Board of Selectmen, and started planning the four bedroom, two floor residence. Grants and permits were applied for, and an architectural plan that fit into guidelines set up by Habitat International was drawn up. Fund-raisers were held and donations received to purchase the materials it would take to put the house together. After many months, State approval as an affordable house for the Town of Kingston was granted.

Before the ground-breaking ceremony in April of 2008, in collaboration with the Kingston Lowe's, the women who wanted to take part in the build were instructed on how to use a miter saw, install insulation and vinyl siding and a whole myriad of other construction processes, without which they could not have participated. And participate they did. Under the steady leadership of site supervisor Doug Ballum, approximately 75% of the construction crew was made up of women. There, the women and their men colleagues labored every Saturday until a cozy house where the Silvias can raise their children rose from dirt.

Kathy Silvia says "by the time we move into the house, it will have been 2 years almost exactly since we were picked as the family." In that time, Kathy and Jason worked tirelessly on site as well. Each

adult member of a family is required to contribute 250 hours of "sweat equity" with a maximum of 500 hours per family. They could be seen mixing concrete, lugging something into or out of the



Kleo Silvia working on her home, Grove St., Kingston

house and pitching in wherever they were needed. Even their daughter, Kleo, did her part. The smallest member of the Silvia family, Jonah, will benefit from the new construction as well. Jonah is physically challenged and the Habitat team has made sure his needs will be met. As Kathy says, "Jonah will just be happy to have a room to sleep in." Kathy also says it will be much easier for them to care for him and he'll be safer in the new house.

On the day the house was dedicated, the children saw their bedrooms for the first time. Delight was the order of the day as each walked into their brand new room and

wondered what the future would bring.

Noah loves the outer space theme of his room, and Hannah wants to play in the yard. Come spring time she'll be having a ball, running around the yard they can call their own!

The Silvias receive an interest-free mortgage from Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plymouth, with the home being sold at cost. The mission of Habitat is to help qualifying families in need to realize the American dream of homeownership. It's not a give-away. Families must meet strict guidelines and exhibit the ability to pay the loan back and be an active part in the construction of the home.

Of course the project could not have been realized without the support, both financial and emotional, from the people, businesses, organizations and churches in our affiliate area, including but not limited to, the Town of Kingston and the Kingston Community Preservation Committee, The Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, Citizens Bank, Home Depot, Lowe's, the Happy Wednesday Foundation and hundreds of volunteers. There are so many to thank.

Habitat for Humanity is proud to have been able to help the Silvia family and create a better housing situation. While Kathy says "time flies when you're having fun", it's Habitat's hope that the fun is just beginning. \*

# **Volunteer Spotlight Larry McCarthy**,

#### **Volunteer Extraordinaire** By Nancy Morse

Larry McCarthy has been a volunteer extraordinaire for nearly all of his life. Among his local associations for more than 20 years he has volunteered for the Plymouth Development & Industrial Commission, Plymouth Finance Committee, Plymouth Art





Larry McCarthy



72 North Main Street P.O. Box 346 Carver, MA 02330 (508) 866-4188

E-mail: info@hfhplymouth.org Website: www.hfhplymouth.org

#### OFFICERS

President: Judy Randall Vice President: Nancy Muckle Secretary: Cathy Rose

Treasurer: Cathy Cavicchi

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Mary Beth Allen Cathy Cavicchi

Reverend Dick Coleman

Steven Dubuque

Deb Etzel

Joan Hoye

Louise Kimball

Steven Lunetta

Anne Lynch

Kristin Lysik

Donna Martin

Nancy Morse

Nancy Muckle

Judy Randall

Cathy Rose

Paulette Saggio

Arnie Thorell

Lynne Zagami

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

#### Michelle Constantino

#### AFFILIATE MANAGER

Bill Slater

#### RESTORE MANAGER

Douglas Raymond

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Church Relations** Arnie Thorell

Construction

Nancy Morse

**Family Partnership** 

Carol Johnson

**Family Selection** Dottie Kelley

Finance

Cathy Cavicchi

**Fund Development** 

Paulette Landry

Nominating

**Public Relations** 

Cathy Rose

**Site Selection** 

Carol King, Danielle Justo & Eleanor Hanford

Special Projects

Allen Hanford

**Volunteer Committee** 

Donna Martin

Webmaster & Graphic Designer

Judy Randall

## The President's Perspective

#### "Building Hope and Changing Lives"



For the last 6 years it's been my privilege and honor to work with some of the most dedi-

cated and committed volunteers imaginable. Serving as President of the Board of Directors of this affiliate has been a rewarding and thrilling experience and I am impressed beyond words by the countless hours of work members of our board and our volunteers have devoted to making home ownership possible for each of our partner families.

As our charter wisely requires, I'll be stepping down from the board to recharge my batteries and give others an opportunity to carry out their vision of our mission. The work of Habitat and the friendships forged here will

forever be in my prayers.

Habitat for Humanity is so much more than "just another good cause" - it is life-altering and life-affirming experience for everyone involved - the families selected and the thousands of volunteers who contribute their time and money to our mutual mission. When we offer ourselves and our hearts to Habitat we find our souls enriched, our spirits lifted, and our life expanded.

I've spent a lot of time roaming around the web looking at other habitat websites. The common messages coming forth from families that have received a Habitat home is that they often feel blessed! They speak of their struggle to find decent affordable housing for their families.

Theirs is a struggle we can identify with because all of us are, in our own way, reaching and searching for a place we call home. We all desire to do right by our children and it is not a long reach to identify with strangers striving to do the same for their loved ones. Their dreams are also our dreams and for those of us fortunate enough to have reached our goals we feel compelled to lend a hand to others to share in the blessings of a loving and caring community.

So in this New Year, my hope is that you join with me in fulfilling a family's dream of home ownership. I challenge individuals, businesses, churches, and other organizations in our community to join in partnership with people in need to build simple, decent, affordable homes. You can help us "Give A Hand Up, Not A Hand Out" to a deserving family.

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve.

With love and appreciation, Judy Randall \*

## Its the End of the World as They Know It

By Cathy Rose

Before the earth shook and their world came tumbling down on top of them, the people of Haiti were already living in the poorest country in the western hemisphere. With the complete destruction of their capital and the ramshackle huts with roofs made of corrugated sheet metal or straw they called home, the people of Port-Au-Prince and surrounding areas are trying to find a way to simply exist.

Before the 7.1 magnitude earthquake struck, Habitat for Humanity of Haiti was helping make things better for this impoverished nation. On that tragic day in January, the offices the affiliate was moving out of as well as in to were both destroyed. By the grace of God. Habitat didn't lose a soul. As we all know that isn't the case for the rest of the country. As many as 200,000 people - men, women and children - will have

perished when their homes, schools, hospitals, offices and shops toppled into concrete heaps, burying thousands. It's a fate difficult to comprehend.

Habitat for Humanity International's initial response was guarded. The last thing anyone wanted to do was to put more people in harm's way, no matter how strong the need, no matter how strong the desire to help.

HHI is now on the ground in Haiti and assessing the situation. There are thousands of people standing by, just waiting for the call to descend on Haiti and help these people rebuild, just waiting to help these people get out of the tent cities that have sprung up all over, and into safe shelter.

Habitat for Haiti was formed in 1981 and has constructed more than 500 houses since. It is not known at this time how many are still standing. Since

this number includes homes built outside the disaster zone, there are hundreds of people who still have roofs over their heads. But there are tens of thousands who do not. Tonight there are tens of thousands of people who can't feed their children, can't get a drink of water, can't find a doctor.

Though it is impossible to even fathom helping them all, if everyone pitches in, however they are able, the future will get brighter - albeit slowly and painfully - for the people of Haiti. To make a donation to Habitat for Humanity's efforts, please text "HABITAT" to 25383 to donate \$10, go to www.hfhplymouth.org or call 1-800-Habitat (422-4828).

For whatever help you can offer, Greater Plymouth's Habitat thanks you, and God bless the people of Haiti. \*

# Here it is.....The Best Kept Secret!!



Douglas Raymond, ReStore manager, can help you find that special product.

#### By Diane Phinney

Psst..... I'm going to let you in on the best kept secret on the South Shore....

It is......The Habitat Re-Store in Carver!!

The South Shore has the honor of having the location of the very first Habitat ReStore in Massachusetts!! The store is owned and operated by Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plymouth, is located right here in Carver and is the local place where you can get the very best deals on things like windows, doors, lighting fixtures, hardware, electrical supplies and a host of other new and like-new items. Right now the store has over 1200 different types of items and 75% of them are new.

You will be happy to know too, that the store is expanding and you will soon be able to get even more bargains on more products! The store is staying in exactly the same spot where it has been operating since 2006. While it will remain at 72 N. Main St., Carver (.7 mile south on Rte. 58 from the 44 extension), it is expanding in size so that it can offer a greater quantity of the products now sold and some additional ones such as gently used small appliances and used furniture.

Donated items come to Habitat from individuals like you, organizations, manufacturers, Habitat International and home

improvement stores. When items are donated, they are first reviewed for possible use in our Habitat homes. Using donated items helps reduce the cost of building our homes and this savings is passed onto the home owner. If an item cannot be used or isn't needed in a home we are building, it is placed for sale at bargain basement prices in the ReStore.

People who shop at the ReStore range from renters, first time home owners, contractors, plumbers, electricians and trades people to remodelers like Wallace Charles, a retired flooring contractor who is currently remodeling two homes. "I shop there at least once a week, the prices are very good and I've always been very happy with the products that I've purchased there," Mr. Charles stated. "I've purchased flooring, cabinets and many other items and my wife even found some beautiful lamps there," he said.

In addition to the incredible prices, customers can get lots of good product and construction advice from our very knowledgeable Store Manager, Doug Raymond. A retired Commander in the Naval Reserve and a Viet Nam Vet, Doug also has many years of experience working in the banking world, in customer service, in the fast food industry and in the electrical department at a home improve-

ment store. This experience, coupled with his BS Degree in Business Administration and a Certificate in Accounting, both from Bentley, has produced a jewel of a store manager. Customers Georgia & Paul love to visit the store and pick Doug's brain. "Doug is so helpful and nice to work with. He answers our questions, is very knowledgeable and doesn't pressure you. We feel good going there. We like the fact that the money we spend goes to help the families and we gain something ourselves by saving money at the same time," she said.

In exchange for a donated item, individuals receive a tax donation form for the IRS. Items to be donated need to be cleared for acceptance first by calling the store. Frequent customer requests are for quality used cabinets, energy efficient appliances, new and used tools, wood flooring, tile or flooring in quantities sufficient enough to do a small project and white latex paint which is less than 2 years old and has never been opened. In addition, the store itself needs stand-alone shelving, shopping baskets and shopping

The expansion is planned to be completed during the spring of 2010. During the expansion, the store will remain open with its current schedule of Thurs.-Sat. 9-5. Once the expansion is completed, the store will also be open on Tuesdays & Wednesdays 9-5.

The main HfHGP office, formerly located at 38 N. Main Street, Carver, has moved to the ReStore location but will have its own separate entrance and own separate operating schedule.

You can tell by his passionate attitude that Doug really enjoys what he's doing. He truly loves helping people find affordable ways to do home repairs and upgrades while at the same time, being able to help HfHGP raise money to build more houses. He finds, he said, "that people going to a home improvement store who stop here first to see if we have what they are looking for are often pleased to find out that we do! And then they are even more pleased when they find that their savings is substantial."

So, do stop in and please don't keep this secret to yourself. The Habitat ReStore IS the best kept secret on the South Shore.....spread it around!

To contact the store, call 508-866-4199. Volunteers are always needed to work in the store or assist with donation pick-up. Need an idea for birthday or holiday gifts??? Gift certificates are available too!! \*

## **We've Moved Down the Road!**

Packing it up and moving on down the road! Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plymouth's office is moving into bigger digs – right inside the ReStore building at 72 North



Main Street in Carver. Stop in and say hi when you're in the store saving 50% to 90% off retail store pricing for hundreds of items! Visit www.hfhplymouth.org for more information on our ReStore, where you can save money and help Habitat continue its mission at the same time!

# A Grass Roots Effort People Pitch in for Habitat for Humanity

By Cathy Rose

Every Saturday, you can find a slew of people hammering, sawing, and laying down flooring and landscaping at Habitat's 138 Grove St., Kingston location. They wouldn't be there without the kindness and selflessness of people in the community, not to mention the generosity of the Town of Kingston Community Preservation Committee and all of Habitat's sponsors.

When people in the community show their passion for helping groups like Habitat for Humanity, it's especially rewarding and worth mentioning.

This desire to pitch in and make a difference has been brought to the site by some youth in the area as well. There are kids and young adults from the First Parish Church Youth Group in Kingston who pulled together and brought lunch to

a hungry crowd building the house for the Sylvia family – twice! The Church has been helping Habitat for some time now and their thoughtfulness does not go unnoticed. It takes a community to get things done.

Another group that banded together and gave of themselves is the Plymouth Women's Club. The PWC braved the cold in February, providing lunch to the volunteers at the Women Build site in Kingston. The Grove St. house has been constructed with women making up around 75% of the volunteer force. The PWC then did it again in late June, and a third time in September. That's a lot of lunches!

Several months ago, when around 50 students at the Silver Lake Regional Middle School were deciding who the beneficiary of the proceeds from their talent show would be, organizer Beth Bloomer says Habitat for



Silver Lake Regional Middle School Principal Dennis Azevedo, event organizer Beth Bloomer and student talent show participants.

Humanity came quickly to mind. The talent show was a great success and they donated the proceeds to Habitat for Humanity. Principal Dennis Azevedo is obviously proud of his students and their accomplishments.

The stories go on and there are countless other people, small businesses and organizations who continue to support the fight against homelessness and

poverty housing. Check out the back page of this newsletter for a list of others who have helped. Without them Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plymouth would have a difficult time continuing its mission of working with a qualifying, deserving family to build an affordable home in which to grow and prosper. •



## **Meet Our Director of Development - Michelle Constantino**

Ready and rarin' to go – that's what best describes Michelle Constantino, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plymouth's new Director of Development.

Tasked with developing corporate and business level relationships with the affiliate,

Michelle brings a lot of experience, energy and enthusiasm to the position.

Wanting to affect what Michelle calls a "huge difference in a person's life and community", she actively sought the position and was rewarded after an extensive interview process by Habitat Board members. With Michelle's long list of achievements and talents, the choice was a win-win for her and for HfHGP.

As a former Director of Business Initiatives and Program Director for the Metro South Chamber of Commerce, Michelle has demonstrated her business savvy as well as her humanitarian endeavors in the community. This hands-on business-oriented experience will be invaluable to Michelle's efforts to partner with Cranberry Country's corporate base.

In addition to her efforts toward increasing the involvement and participation of corporations and business in the mission, Michelle is hoping to educate and advocate a solution to the housing problem that plagues us. It is Habitat's mission to eliminate poverty

housing and homelessness in the world and to make decent housing a matter of conscience and action.

Michelle is a founder of two different programs aimed at giving people the tools they need to improve their and others' lives. The first, Hands to Heart, taught parents and caregivers to use American Sign Language to communicate with their hearing infants before they are capable of speech. The second, Good for the Soul, had a mission to offer people a simple way to give useful and inspirational gifts to family, friends and coworkers who were facing a difficult situation in their lives, such as a serious illness, among other initiatives to empower people.

Also on her long list of achievements is volunteer work with Matthew's Kitchen in Plymouth, a local soup kitchen, the Obama Presidential Campaign, the Avon Breast Cancer 3-Day, South Shore Women's Business Network, and the Plymouth Area Alliance for the Mentally Ill.

In this economy it is more important than ever to have a sophisticated, knowledgeable leader who can connect on a professional business level with companies HfHGP hopes to partner with and to develop long lasting relationships.

The affiliate is proud to announce and welcome Michelle Constantino as the new Director of Development for Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plymouth. \*

## **Affiliate Welcomes New Board Members**



**Steve Lunetta** - Steve is returning to the Board after a "much needed break" and we're glad to have him back. Steve started working with HfHGP in

2001 at the Oak Street build in Middleboro and after joining the Construction Committee, eventually found himself on the Board. He's also been Site Supervisor so he's bringing many talents back to the fold.

Steve has now worked on 6 Habitat homes and several special projects including the ReStore remodeling job.

Feeling that it is the "right thing to do" in giving back the community, Steve says he's found Habitat for Humanity a very productive and enjoyable way to do just that. Welcome back, Steve!

Mary Beth Allen - When Mary Beth



Allen moved to Plymouth a year and a half ago, she knew she wanted to get involved in volunteering. Lucky for Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plym-

outh, she learned of us and our mission and now she's on the Board of Directors. Mary Beth says it's a good fit and we welcome her aboard! She brings with her volunteerism's best qualities, having volunteered with both her church & a free clinic in upstate New York. She is currently a Prof. of Reading at E. Stroudsburg Univ., teaching online

classes.



Kristin Lysik - Kristin is new to the Board, but no stranger to helping those in need. Kristin lives in Plymouth with her hus-

band and two children and has donated her

time to several different causes – most recently with the Committee to Elect Therese Murray, the Massachusetts Senate President.

Having served on numerous boards throughout Massachusetts, Kristin brings with her many talents to the Board, including, but not limited to, project management, sales and marketing. HfHGP is lucky to have her join the affiliate and serve on the Board of Directors.



Lynne Zagami - Lynne was inspired by the work of the Habitat organization and is happy to play a part as a Board member. Her knowledge as an

attorney will no doubt come in handy when it comes to figuring out legal challenges the Board will face. She is proud to be actively supporting Habitat's mission to bring affordable housing to families in our communities and around the world. •

## **Thank You to Our Departing Board Members**

Carol King - While Carol King is leaving the Board, she isn't straying far. Carol has been involved with the Site Selection Committee for years and is staying with that committee. She brought her real estate knowledge and never wavered from her support for Habitat's mission. We're sorry to see her leave the Board, but very happy she's staying right where she is.

Anne Soares - Anne has been a Habitat supporter for a long time and was an important member of the Board. Without Anne's energy and ambition over the years, the Gala (also known as the Taste of Plymouth) would not have seen the success it did. We will miss her and wish her well in her future endeavors.

**Gary Wente** - While Gary was with the Board he lent his considerable legal knowledge to plowing through the legal quagmire that can arise when figuring out attorney-

speak. His assistance was immeasurable as the affiliate tried to wade through various legal debacles – most recently the verbiage of the deed riders so very important in finalizing the sale of Habitat homes to Habitat families. We wish Gary the best of luck!

Debbie Glass - Debbie is leaving the Board but is still very much involved in what makes Habitat tick. Through her long-running commitment to worthy causes and her 10% real estate commission program, Deborah has donated 10% of her commissions on real estate transactions to the sellers' choice of non-profits including Habitat. As a result, over the last several years, she has donated literally thousands of dollars to the home building program of the affiliate. We hope Deborah continues to serve on the Holiday House Committee and Habitat is proud to call her a friend and impressive

supporter of the Habitat mission.

Lorraine Enos - Lorraine has been on the Family Selection committee for the last 3 family selections. Her expertise in banking was very helpful in reading the credit reports and figuring the income to debt ratio, a very important component in deciding eligibility for a family to become a Habitat Home recipient. Although she is stepping off the Board she plans to remain involved in Habitat and is planning on remaining on the Family Selection Committee.

Charlene Flaherty - Though Charlene is stepping off the Board of Directors, she hasn't stepped out of Habitat. As the Chair of the ReStore Committee and a valued office volunteer, her involvement in Habitat for Humanity is still going strong. And her skills as an affiliate photographer will continue as well. \*

## <sup>'</sup>It's the Little Things...

Habitat for Humanity builds homes from scratch & resells them at cost with a nointerest mortgage to qualifying, low-income families.

But Habitat's reach extends a helping hand with smaller, more basic tasks through our Special Projects Committee. Headed by Allen Hanford, this group works with the elderly, special needs and low-income community in our affiliate area to repair existing structural problems in an effort to keep people in their homes, safe and sound.

Whether it's a leaky roof, a sagging floor, or a plumbing issue, the Special Projects
Committee assesses a person's needs and

#### By Cathy Rose



Special Projects repaired five holes in the floor of a mobile home in Carver. The holes were caused by a leaking hot water heater, leaking toilet and leaking roof. All leaks were repaired before we started. New vinyl floors were installed in the kitchen and two bathrooms. the size of the repair, and then works to resolve the issue. ReStore manager Doug Raymond works with Allen to see if the materials needed might be available at the ReStore, therefore reducing the cost of the repair. This offsets the cost of what the homeowner has to repay to Habitat for Humanity. The labor, which can be very costly, is free.

The project may be small, but the pay off is huge. A leaky roof could lead to a home being uninhabitable for many reasons, creating a desperate situation for the resident. With a little TLC, some lumber and caulking, Allen and his team can salvage the most important thing a human needs to survive in this world...a place to call home. \*

WWW HEHPLYMOUTH ORG PAGE 5

## **Spotlight** - Judy Randall, President of HfHGP

By Diane Phinney

After 6 years of service and dedication, Judy Randall will be leaving our Board of Directors in March after faithfully serving the

two consecutive terms allowed under Habitat bylaws.

But, just like Judy Garland wished to go back home, which she did as Dorothy in the 'Wizard of Oz', our own Judy wishes to return to the

BOD after taking a year off. Rest assured, Judy, HfHGP will welcome you back with open arms!

Recently we met for lunch at the All American Diner in Plymouth (great omelets, by the way!) to discuss how she joined up with us HfHGP folks and what her future plans hold.

It was past President Peter Tea who sparked her interest in getting involved with Habitat. In 2002, Judy attended a meeting at the First Parish Church in Kingston where Peter was trying to garner support to build a Town Committee. Judy said there were about 25 people in attendance but no one came forth to volunteer to head the committee. Peter told the group that without a Chair for the Town Committee, Habitat could not build a house in Kingston. This upset Judy greatly and when no one else raised their hand, thankfully, she raised hers!

As Chair of the Kingston Town Committee, Judy created fundraisers such as a yard sale and a walk for Habitat in order to get the people involved in the upcoming build. In addition, she joined the PR Committee of which I was Chair. Let me say that it was a great blessing to have Judy on that committee! Holding a degree from the University of Lowell in Graphic and Web Design, PR was a perfect fit for her.

About a year after joining the PR Committee, Bob Beane asked her to join the BOD. She did so, but continued to remain on PR and even took on the additional job of Marketing Chair.

It was Judy and she alone who created and has since maintained our HfHGP Website! For the past 7 years, she has also designed our newsletter and all of our marketing materials including brochures, postcards, flyers, pamphlets, annual appeals and she has also taken charge of our advertising needs. Not surprisingly, Judy was eventually elected VP and then President of our affiliate. The HfHGP Presidency is an honor which Judy

views as her greatest life accomplishment thus far - second only to raising her children.

Speaking of her family, Judy and Dennis Randall have been married for 26 years and have two children. Bradford, 23, is a senior at St. Bonaventure University in NY, majoring in Sports Communication. Their daughter, Samantha, 19, is a freshman at the University of Maine where she majors in Creative Writing. Dennis is a Web Editor, a Vice Chairman of the Selectmen in Kingston and a member of the Planning Board. Randall family ties go way back to the town's beginning. Dennis' grandmother's family actually founded the Town of Kingston and Dennis is a direct descendant of Governor Bradford.

Family and HfHGP are not Judy's only love. Music is also immensely important to her. She is a member of the Snug Harbor Community Chorus; a past member of Persephone's Daughters and also sings in her church choir which recently performed in a competition at the Wang Theatre in Boston.

What will Judy do with her time once she leaves the BOD? Well, her plans are to enjoy her partial empty nest with her kids at college (she & Dennis provide care for an elderly handicapped relative who lives with them) and to concentrate on building her graphic design business, Kingston Creative. Judy's on-going commitment to Habitat is apparent. She plans to continue as our Web Mistress and Marketing Chair while she's "regaining her sanity!"

In talking with Judy, it is obvious that HfHGP is part of her heart and soul. She confided, "I feel greatly blessed by the many people whom I have met through our organization. I love driving by the homes we have built and knowing that we have helped these families get where they are today. I feel that our Habitat family, the BOD, our volunteers and our families are actually extensions of my own family."

So, take care of what you need to do while you're off the board, Judy. But do click the heels of your ruby red slippers together and come back home to the BOD as soon as you can! HfHGP will always need you...your heart...your courage ....and your brains to help us continue our mission to build homes for all those in need in the communities we serve! \*

# Habitat Wins Window Display Contest — Doll house Winner Announcement



Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plymouth was recently awarded First Place for the Downtown Plymouth Holiday Window Decorating Contest held in December. With some top notch volunteers partnering with Advanced Mortgage Services, a beautiful display with a holiday theme enchanted young and old. With the most votes of all the windows taking part,

Habitat was the proud recipient of a \$500 First Place prize, which will go toward the next home built by the affiliate. In an incredibly gracious surprise, the owners of Advanced Mortgage Services, Brian and Michelle Comer, matched the prize so the affiliate ended up with a total of \$1,000!

As part of the display, a beautiful wooden doll house donated by The Mill Store's President Philip Baroni was up for grabs by guessing how many M&M's were in a glass jar. The Dabkowski family of Plymouth came closest and won the doll house.

HfHGP thanks Advanced Mortgage Services, The Mill Store and all the people involved in putting this event together – including Michelle Dipresio, owner of Dovetails and Michelle Solomon and Stacey Jordan of Advanced Mortgage.

PAGE 6 WWW.HFHPLYMOUTH.ORG

#### A HUGE Thank You from Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plymouth

By Cathy Rose

Through local events like the Carver Holiday House Tour, Women's Expo, the Quilt Raffle and other larger events held during the year, Habitat for Humanity raises much needed funds with which to build a home in partnership with a deserving family. In this economy, donations to all non-profits have plummeted. But, Greater Plymouth Habitat has been

blessed to have wonderful supporters.

Even with these fundraisers, HfHGP would not be able to function as successfully as it has without its corporate partners. Without their continued support, the mission of Habitat – to make decent and affordable shelter a matter of conscience and action – would grind to a halt. Low income families who qualify and work very hard for these simple homes would never see the realization of the American Dream – home ownership.

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plymouth would like to thank the following for their generosity and community-minded financial support of the construction of the most recently completed home at 138 Grove Street in Kingston:

Wal-Mart, both the Plymouth and Halifax locations; Dan Barry and Shaw's Supermarkets; Citizen's Bank; the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston; Home Depot Community Impact; Lowe's in Kingston; Makepeace Neighborhood Fund and The Happy Wednesday Foundation.

Other supporters include: The Town of Kingston Community Preservation Fund and Habitat for Humanity International. The Massachusetts Technology Collaborative and Energy Star helped to offset the cost of solar panels and other environmentally responsible components used in construction.

These donors have the deep and abiding gratitude of Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plymouth and the Silvia family for making their dream of home ownership come true. \*

Continued from page 1

#### **Volunteer Spotlight**

Guild, Plymouth's Thanksgiving Parade, Big Brother Association, St. Peter's Parish Council, Plymouth Chamber of Commerce, and the Ancient Order of Hibernians! Oh yes, and he also coached soccer and baseball in his spare time! A carpenter by trade, he has been a member of the HFHGP Construction Committee for the past 3 years and has offered his time and talent in the building of both Braley Road and Grove St. Always willing to give a hand, in addition to working every Saturday, Larry has helped us enormously by being available during the week at our worksites to meet with contractors, inspectors and anyone else who needs to have access to our homes in order to complete various tasks. A long time friend of volunteer Ted Clough, Larry kept a picture of him at the Grove St. house after Ted's untimely passing as a memorial to his efforts on behalf of Habitat. Larry also organized two events for each of our volunteer crews as a thank you for all their hard work, and invited his Irish band that provided wonderful music! A proud Irishman, you will find him every Saturday night at the Run of the Mill Restaurant beating his Irish drum in a 'Session' of Irish music. It is with much enthusiasm that we say thank you and salute Larry for all of his work for Habitat. \*

Fred Nava SE Concrete MidCape Home Center Archiplicity Sampson Lumber Carpet Max Cape Cod Lumber Harvey Windows Cubellis Cape Cod Carpentry Town of Kingston Eve Penover David Drain, PE Bob Boynton Melissa Boynton Mary Delprete Sunshine Stores, Kingston Glynn Electric

Glynn Electric
Granite City Electric
Larry McCarthy
Doug Ballum
Lumber Liquidators
MIB, Inc.
Clean Energy Design
Whirlpool
Yale Electric

Lowe's Home Depot Jordan Carpentry BBS Tree Experts Feroli Construction Phil Cook Trucking J. P. Flanagan Kaiser Contracting
Dunn, Inc.
Graziano Plastering
Happy Wednesday Foundation
First Parish UU Church, Kingston
Plymouth Rotary Sunrise Club
The Plymouth Women's Club

Shaws Dovetails Zona Salon

Beverly Goranson

Rosemary Taylor Interiors Lorna Fredericks Painting and

Wallpaper Sharon Andreade Trex Decking Hunter Douglas Blinds

Yale Locks
Dow Industries
Anderson Insullation
1-800-PACK-RAT
Elaine Ostroff
Sam's Club
Bob Gosslein

Insulation Technology, Inc. Ferguson Enterprises, Inc Fieldstone Survey Services

Karen Kelley Donna Martin

Sacred Heart Church of Middleboro Chiltonville Congreg. Church St. David's Church of Halifax Church of the Pilgrimage

Habitat for Humanity strives to end poverty housing by building affordable homes in partnership with low-income families in Plymouth County. Homes we build are sold to the selected family at cost, and an affordable mortgage is provided through Habitat.

There are two more homes in the planning stage which will require help if two more families are to find their Home Sweet Home. If you would like to support HfH of Greater Plymouth, please call (508) 866-4188 or visit <a href="https://www.hfhplymouth.org">www.hfhplymouth.org</a> and click on **Donate Now.** \*





NONPROFIT U.S. POSTAGE PAID 02330 PERMIT NO. 14

Address Service Requested

1-508-866-4188 ~ Building Homes in Plymouth, Kingston, Carver, Middleboro, Plympton & Lakeville ~ www.hfhplymouth.org Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plymouth, Inc. is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International

## Did you miss out on the 'Cash for Clunkers™ program?

Perhaps your vehicle didn't qualify for the government program? Donate your vehicle to build Habitat for Humanity homes in the Greater Plymouth area through Habitat International's Cars for Homes<sup>TM</sup> program! Simply call 877-277-4344 or visit www.carsforhomes.org to donate cars, trucks, boats, RVs, motorcycles, airplanes or other motorized vehicles – running or not! Accepted vehicles are sold through wholesale auctions, salvage yards & automotive recyclers.

Donors are sent an acknowledgment from Habitat for Humanity International and the forms required by the IRS

regulations. Net proceeds are disbursed to affiliates, based on zip code of the donor, as unrestricted funds to help build more homes. Give the gift of hope by donating your vehicle to Cars for Homes<sup>TM</sup> – help Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plymouth continue to fund houses for families in need!



